

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated December 15, 2006, claim 27-29 have been amended. Claims 1-43 are now active in this application. No new matter has been added.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-26 and 30-43 at page 4 of the Office Action, because none of cited art discloses or reasonably suggests "wherein determining position of a macro block which is intra-coded or intercoded, in a range of the maximum number of macro blocks inter-coded in one image frame, when an image (Mth frame, M<N-1) prior to a present image (Nth frame) is coded." Applicants note that independent claims 1 and 30 recite that " $M \leq N-1$ ", which means that M is less than **or equal to** (N-1).

The specification was objected to because the title of the invention did not clearly indicate the invention to which the claims are directed. The title has been amended to recite, "MOVING IMAGE CODING METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING A POSITION OF A MACRO BLOCK WHICH IS INTRA-CODED OR INTER-CODED."

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended title clearly indicates the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claims 27-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,870,500 to Daoudi et al. (hereinafter "Daoudi").

Amended independent claim 27 recites, in part, "macro blocks inter-coded in one image frame when an image which corresponds to Mth frame, wherein $M \leq N-1$, prior to a present image which corresponds to Nth frame is coded."

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claim 27 is allowable for the same reasons as independent claims 1 and 30, as stated at page 4 of the Office Action.